

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 remain pending in the above-referenced application, and claims 1-6 have been withdrawn pursuant to the election dated December 29, 2005.

Claims 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Published Patent Application No. 2004/0018701 to Ueda. Applicants have submitted herewith a verified translation of the priority document for this application. Having perfected their claim to the foreign priority of April 2, 2003, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection based on Ueda, which only has a prior date of June 9, 2003.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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2. A-2 (Reg. No. 41,122)
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